

member of Congress from the State of Washington.

POM-23. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Washington relative to electronic medical and health records; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8003

Whereas, expanded health information technology has the potential to revolutionize the delivery of health care in the United States by enabling continuity of care, improving cost efficiency, lowering rates of medical malpractice, decreasing duplicative care, providing better care management for patients, and producing better health outcomes; and

Whereas, major investments in the hardware and software infrastructure required to facilitate the expansion of health information technology are being made now by health care providers; and

Whereas, the health information systems currently being constructed are often incapable of communicating with each other; and

Whereas, the costs to providers of maintaining incompatible systems in the name of proprietary licensing will grow exponentially with every delay in reaching a universal standard of interoperability; and

Whereas, the benefit from health information technology is only derived from the ability of systems to communicate with each other on a fully compatible platform; and

Whereas, a national public-private partnership has recently commenced with leadership from the United States department of health and human services to define standards of interoperability with the goal of implementing electronic health records for all Americans by the year 2014;

Now, therefore, your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress institute a date certain, no later than January 1, 2013, at which time all vendors, suppliers, and manufacturers of health information technology must comply with a uniform national standard of interoperability, such that all electronic medical and health records can be readily shared and accessed across all health care providers and institutions while at the same time preserving the proprietary nature of health information technology producers that will encourage future innovation and competition: Be it

Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States, the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the Governor of the State of Washington, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

POM-24. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Washington relative to the issuance of a commemorative stamp by the United States Postal Service; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4005

Whereas, the Nisei veterans of the Second World War provided the avenue for Japanese-Americans to prove their loyalty to the United States by serving as the ultimate patriots in the Armed Forces; and

Whereas, these veterans served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 100th Infantry Battalion, and the Military Intelligence Service (MIS); and

Whereas, the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team of the United States Army were comprised of Japanese-Americans who fought in Europe during the Second World War; and

Whereas, the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team were mem-

bers of the most highly decorated military unit of its size in the history of the United States Armed Forces, with twenty-one Medal of Honor recipients, numerous Purple Hearts, and many other awards; and

Whereas, tens of thousands of lives were saved because the MIS used their knowledge of Japanese language and culture to help the Allies end the Second World War quickly in the Pacific; and

Whereas, the Nisei veterans' proud American legacy continues, however many Nisei veterans have passed away and those still alive are now in their eighties and nineties; and

Whereas, these Nisei veterans should be publicly commemorated;

Now, therefore, your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United States Postal Service issue a postage stamp in commemoration of the Nisei veterans' service in the United States Armed Forces during the Second World War: Be it

Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each Member of Congress from the State of Washington.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 663. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12877 Broad Street in Sparta, Georgia, as the "Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim Post Office Building".

H.R. 918. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 300 East 3rd Street in Jamestown, New York, as the "Stan Lundine Post Office Building".

H.R. 1284. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 103 West Main Street in McLain, Mississippi, as the "Major Ed W. Freeman Post Office".

H.R. 1595. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3245 Latta Road in Rochester, New York, as the "Brian K. Schramm Post Office Building".

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

*Lawrence E. Strickling, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.

*Rebecca M. Blank, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Economic Affairs.

*John D. Porcari, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation.

*J. Randolph Babbitt, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration for the term of five years.

*Aneesh Chopra, of Virginia, to be an Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORD on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

*National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration nominations beginning with Mark H. Pickett and ending with Ryan A. Wartick, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 14, 2009.

*National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration nominations beginning with Heather L. Moe and ending with Marina O. Kosenko, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 14, 2009.

By Mr. KERRY for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

*Judith A. McHale, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy.

*Robert Orris Blake, Jr., of Maryland, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs.

By Mr. DODD for Mr. KENNEDY for the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

*Seth David Harris, of New Jersey, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

*Linda A. Puchala, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2009.

*Linda A. Puchala, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2012.

*John Q. Easton, of Illinois, to be Director of the Institute of Education Science, Department of Education for a term of six years.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

*Marisa J. Demeo, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

*Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

*Cass R. Sunstein, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget.

*David Heyman, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

*Robert M. Groves, of Michigan, to be Director of the Census.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 1081. A bill to prohibit the release of enemy combatants into the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 1082. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals to